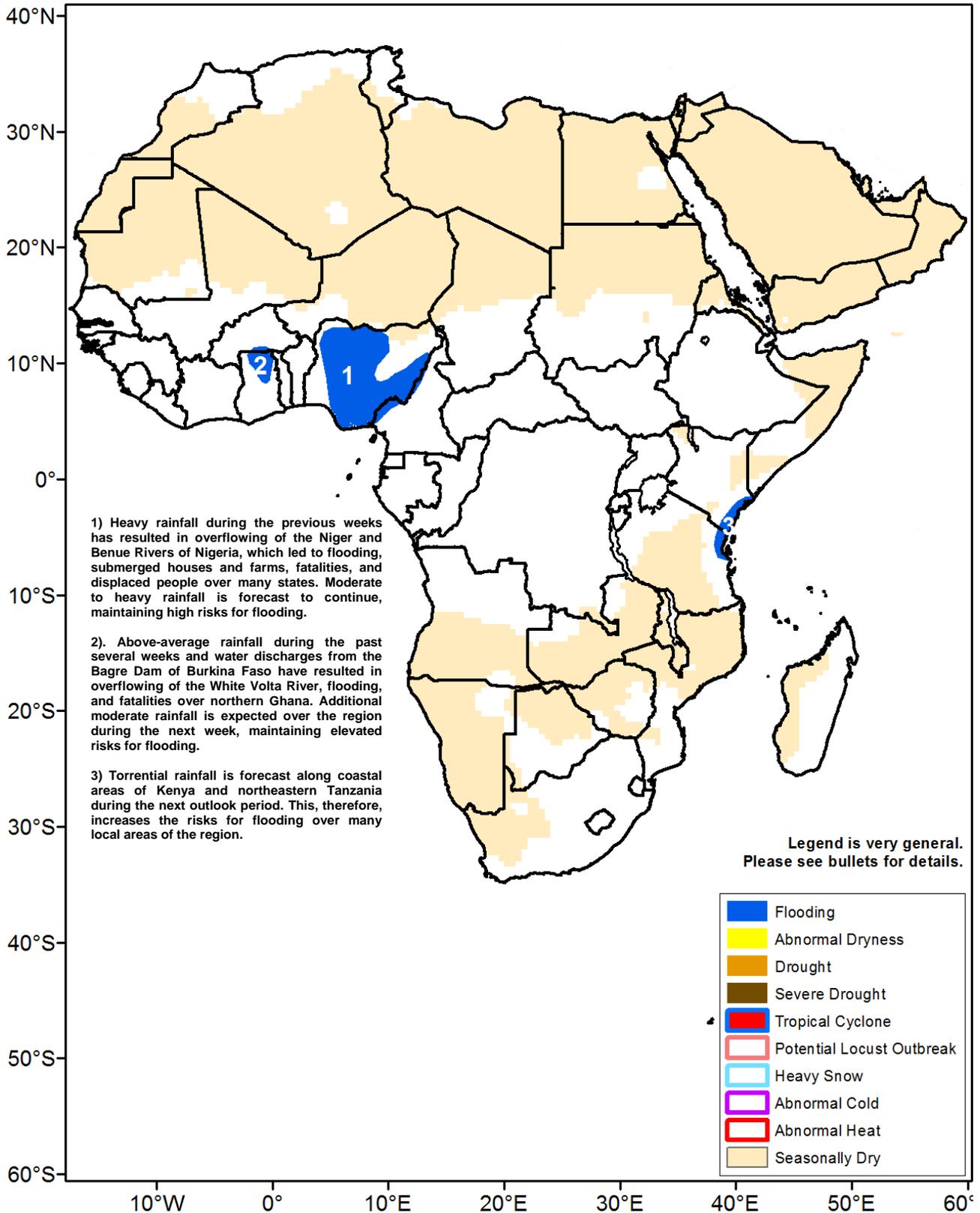




Climate Prediction Center's Africa Hazards Outlook October 4 – October 10, 2018

- Heavy rains and multiple floods reported in southeastern Kenya during the last week.
- Flooding risks continue across the Benue and Niger Rivers of Nigeria.



No relief to enhanced rainfall over several West Africa countries.

During the last week, regionally heavy rainfall accumulations (>75mm) continued over many parts of eastern Senegal, Guinea, western Mali, Sierra Leone, and Nigeria (Figure 1). In the western Sahel, high surface moisture and an anomalously displaced ITCZ/ITF brought another week of unusual rainfall activity into the arid reaches of Mauritania, northern Mali, and Algeria. Further south, a fairly reasonable distribution of precipitation was received over the Gulf of Guinea countries, with weekly amounts ranging between 10-50mm throughout the region. Decreased amounts (<10mm) continued for another week over coastal Cote d'Ivoire.

As the early to mid-stages of the West Africa monsoon has been predominately average to above-average, the later stages have shown no signs of departure from being one of the wettest seasons of record. During the month of September, large moisture surpluses have been recorded throughout several West Africa countries, with the highest positive anomalies concentrated throughout eastern Senegal, southern Mali, Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone (Figure 2). Consequently, the excess precipitation and ground moisture has led to much downstream rivers inundation, which has flooded houses and farmlands and displaced many people. In Nigeria, local authorities have already declared National Disaster over many States, including the Kogi, Niger, Anambra, and Delta, according to media reports. In Ghana, the compounded effects of accumulated heavy rainfall and water discharges from the Bagre Dam of Burkina Faso have led to flooding and affected people in northern Ghana, based on reports.

During the next outlook period, the ITCZ/ITF is expected to continue its equatorward retreat, bringing decreased amounts of rainfall across the Sahel, with moderate locally heavy rainfall over several Gulf of Guinea countries. Weekly accumulations ranging between 25-50mm are forecast over many flood affected regions of Ghana and Nigeria.

Heavy rains and flooding reported over the Coast province of southeastern Kenya.

During late September, enhanced easterly, onshore flow from an anomalously warm Indian ocean brought locally torrential rainfall accumulations (>75mm) across the Coast province of southeastern Kenya. Flooding and damages to infrastructure have been reported in Mombasa, Kwale, Kilifi, and in over the Tana River near Garsen, Kenya. According to satellite rainfall estimates, locally heavy rainfall was also received further north across parts of southern and northern Somalia, as well as, lower but well distributed precipitation across the Ogaden region of eastern Ethiopia (Figure 1). The increase in rainfall in these regions possibly marks an early onset to the Oct-Dec rains season in these areas, which is expected to be favorable for pastoral and agro-pastoral conditions following their dry season.

Elsewhere in East Africa, well distributed rainfall was received throughout Sudan, South Sudan and Ethiopia, however weekly rainfall totals continue to remain below-average. Since early September, moisture deficits have continued to strengthen across southwestern Kenya, eastern Uganda, southern South Sudan and southwestern Ethiopia (Figure 2).

For the outlook period, drier conditions are forecast for southeastern Kenya, however, models suggest the potential for locally heavy rainfall across parts of central and northern Somalia during the next seven days.

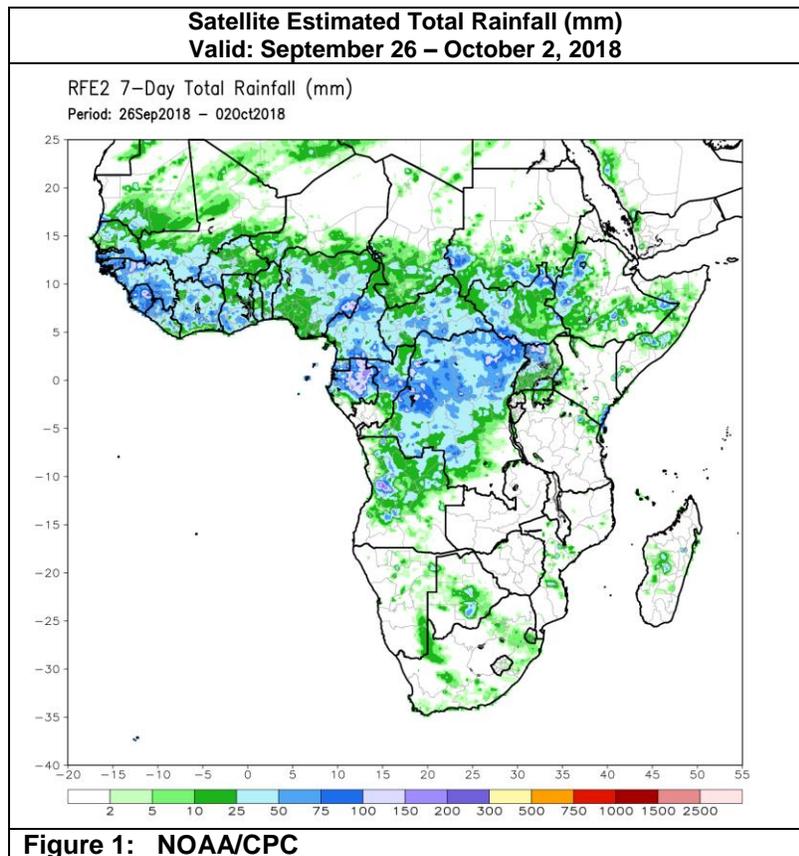


Figure 1: NOAA/CPC

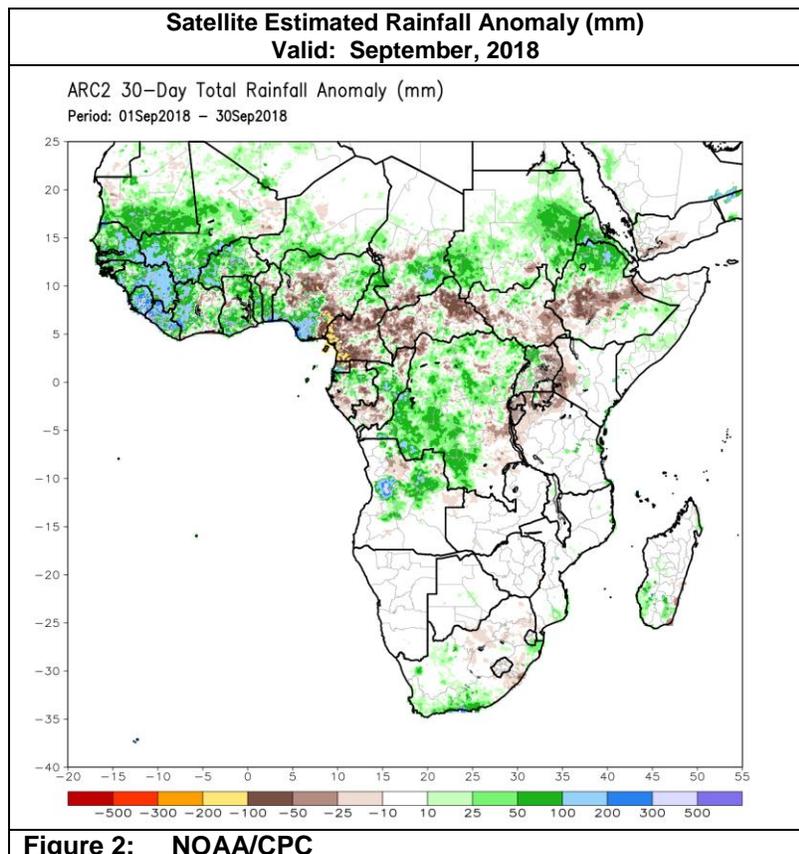


Figure 2: NOAA/CPC

Note: The hazards outlook map on page 1 is based on current weather/climate information and short and medium range weather forecasts (up to 1 week). It assesses their potential impact on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at this continental scale. This product does not reflect long range seasonal climate forecasts or indicate current or projected food security conditions.